United Nations S/2001/640

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 June 2001

Original: English

Note by the President of the Security Council

1. The members of the Security Council, recognizing the importance of timely, full and effective dissemination of its resolutions and presidential statements, as well as statements to the press by its President on behalf of its members to the international community, in particular their communication to those concerned, have indicated their agreement to the continuation and strengthening of the current practice as follows:

(a) The President of the Security Council should, when so requested by the Council members, and without prejudice to his/her responsibilities as President, draw the attention of the Representative(s) of the Member State(s) as well as regional organizations and arrangements concerned to relevant statements to the press made by the President on behalf of Council members or decisions of the Council;

(b) The Secretariat should also continue to bring to the knowledge of those concerned including non-State actors through the relevant Special Representatives, Representatives and Envoys of the Secretary-General and United Nations Resident Coordinators, resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council as well as statements to the press made by the President of the Council on behalf of the Council members and ensure their promptest communication and widest possible dissemination;

(c) The Secretariat should further issue, as United Nations press releases, all statements to the press made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of Council members, upon clearance by the President.

2. The members of the Security Council will continue their consideration of other suggestions concerning the Council's documentation and related matters.

01-43398 (E) 290601

United Nations S/2001/641

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 June 2001
English
Original: English/French

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Western Sahara, in particular resolution 1108 (1997) of 22 May 1997, and the statement by its President of 19 March 1997 (S/PRST/1997/16),

Recalling also its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000, and the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,

Reaffirming the provisions contained in paragraph 2 of Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 20 June 2001 (S/2001/613),

Expressing full support for the role and work of the Personal Envoy,

Reiterating full support for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) to implement the Settlement Plan and agreements adopted by the parties to hold a free, fair and impartial referendum for the self-determination of the people of the Western Sahara,

Taking into consideration the Official Proposals submitted by the Polisario Front in order to overcome the obstacles preventing the implementation of the Settlement Plan contained in annex IV to the report of the Secretary-General,

Taking into consideration also the draft Framework Agreement on the Status of Western Sahara contained in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General, which would provide for a substantial devolution of authority, which does not foreclose self-determination, and which indeed provides for it,

Taking into consideration further the Memorandum of the Government of Algeria on the Draft Status for Western Sahara contained in annex II to the report of the Secretary-General,

Reaffirming its commitment to assist the parties to achieve a just and lasting solution to the question of Western Sahara,

1. *Decides*, as recommended by the Secretary-General in his report of 20 June 2001, to extend the mandate of MINURSO until 30 November 2001;

01-43346 (E) 290601

2. *Supports fully* the efforts of the Secretary-General to invite all the parties to meet directly or through proximity talks, under the auspices of his Personal Envoy, and *encourages* the parties to discuss the draft Framework Agreement and to negotiate any specific changes they would like to see in this proposal, as well as to discuss any other proposal for a political solution, which may be put forward by the parties, to arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement;

3. *Affirms* that while discussions referred to above go on, the official proposals submitted by the Polisario Front to overcome the obstacles preventing implementation of the Settlement Plan will be considered;

4. *Recalls* that according to the rules of the consultations established by the Personal Envoy nothing would be agreed until everything had been agreed, and therefore *emphasizes* that by engaging in these negotiations the parties will not prejudice their final positions;

5. *Urges* the parties to solve the problem of the fate of people unaccounted for, and *calls on* the parties to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law to release without further delay all those held since the start of the conflict;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide an assessment of the situation before the end of the present mandate, and, as appropriate, recommendations on the future mandate and composition of MINURSO;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

United Nations A/55/1001–S/2001/642

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 June 2001
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 27 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

During the daylight hours of 13 and 14 June 2001, thick columns of smoke were seen deep inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands ascending from fires that had been deliberately set to extensive tracts of woodland and fruit trees by Israeli occupation forces.

On another day, occupation forces deliberately set fire to the dry grass between the Abbad position and the adjacent Margaliyot settlement. The smoke from this fire was also seen rising from the slope to the east of the position and then spreading into Lebanese territory. The Israeli soldiers remained at the position watching the fire spread over the area in question with indifference and did not intervene.

The fires that have already broken out and those that are bound to occur in the future, especially when it becomes hotter, are deliberately set by the occupation forces. This is particularly evident from the fact that ever since their occupation first began they have persistently been setting fire to the dry grass, fruit trees and woodlands that surround their military positions and obstruct their field of view so that they can use the night-vision equipment they have deployed in the occupied Shab'a farmlands and along the Lebanese border for the alleged purpose of preventing infiltration.

If they are repeated, such practices will destroy the woodlands and forested areas in the occupied Shab'a farmlands and extensive green areas adjacent to the border that represent for Lebanon a major resource that cannot be relinquished on the flimsy pretexts advanced by the occupation.

Lebanon asks you to make the necessary endeavours with the Israeli side in order to oblige it to take the measures required to prevent fires from spreading and to use all possible means to control them when they break out in the areas it is occupying, given that these wooded tracts and green areas represent a major ecological resource for Lebanon.

01-43241 (E) 020701 020701

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/55/1002–S/2001/643

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 June 2001
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 27 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The Finnish contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) reported that at 0516 hours on 15 June 2001 an Israeli civilian agricultural aircraft had penetrated 100 metres north of the Blue Line in the area of the Misgav Am settlement, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

The Finnish UNIFIL contingent reported that between 0755 and 0815 hours on 18 June 2001 an Israeli civilian agricultural aircraft had penetrated some 30 metres into Lebanese airspace in the Kafr Killa area. It had also penetrated 20 metres over the Blue Line eight times in the area between intermediate boundary pillar B-86, 1 kilometre east of Kafr Killa, and intermediate boundary pillar B-88, near the Metullah settlement, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1115 and 1135 hours on the same day four Israeli warplanes overflew the UNIFIL area of operations in southern Lebanon. Two aircraft then overflew the Western Bekaa, and two others flew over the sea 10 nautical miles off Jubayl, breaking the sound barrier and violating Lebanese airspace.

The UNIFIL Ghanian contingent reported that between 1155 and 1156 hours on 20 June 2001 two Israeli helicopters had flown over its area of operations at low altitude. On the same day Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre and Shikka areas, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1038 and 1100 hours on 23 June 2001 Israeli warplanes flew over the sea off Tyre heading north. They also overflew the Western Bekaa and Shikka areas, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

The Israeli aerial violations indicated above are in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanon's sovereignty, and they pose a threat to security and stability in the region.

01-43255 (E) 020701 020701

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative